

[8th September 1928]

[Note.—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II

ELECTION OF MEMBERS FOR CONFERRING WITH THE INDIAN STATUTORY COMMISSION.

12 noon. * The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I have to inform the House that, as a result of the voting for election of seven members of this Council to the Committee for conferring with the Indian Statutory Commission, the following Members have been declared duly elected :—

- (1) Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar.
- (2) Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro.
- (3) Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri.
- (4) Khan Bahadur P. Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur.
- (5) Mr. Daniel Thomas.
- (6) „ P. Siva Rao.
- (7) „ N. Siva Raj."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—"May we not have half an hour more for questions?"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member was not alert enough. If the hon. Member had at least given me private information, I would have ascertained the wishes of the House."

III

THE ANNAMALAI UNIVERSITY BILL.

* The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"Sir, I now rise to introduce a Bill a to inaugurate a new University near Chidambaram, which has been rendered possible by the munificent gift that has been offered to Government by the generosity of Sir Annamalai Chettiyar, the founder and manager of Sri Minakshi College at Chidambaram. I am sure hon. Members will bear with me if I briefly narrate the circumstances under which this scheme has become possible. It was in January last that Sir Annamalai came and offered . . ."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—"On a point of order, Sir. Is the hon. Member allowed to read from a manuscript?"

* The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"I am not doing anything of the kind. It was in January last that Sir Annamalai came and offered to me that he would provide sufficient financial backing to make it possible for the Government to view the offer in a sympathetic manner."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member is now introducing the Bill. At the time of the introduction of a Bill, according to the new Standing Orders, he has simply to state 'I introduce the Bill.' While making a motion that the Bill be referred to a select committee, the hon. Member can expound the general principles involved in the Bill."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—"He has not read the new Standing Order."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The mistake lies with my office. I have asked the Secretary to bring the Standing Orders up to date and send a copy to each Member of the Council."

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Mr. MAHMUD SCHAMNAD :—" May I know whether I can rise to oppose the Bill at this stage ? "

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" There is no objection to opposing a motion for the reference of a Bill to a select committee."

* The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I move under S.O. No. 40 (2) that this Bill be referred to a committee composed of more than fifteen members."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I second it."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The question is that the Select Committee be composed of more than fifteen members."

The motion was put and carried.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Hon. Members might have received a subsequent notice from the Chief Minister to substitute the name of Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai in the place of Mr. N. Siva Raj."

* The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I now move that the names as amended by the inclusion of Mr. Muniswami Pillai in the place of Mr. Siva Raj do form the Select Committee for this Bill."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I second it."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" The agenda says ' The list of members will be circulated separately.' We have not got it."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The list was circulated, I was told, to the Members on Thursday evening."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" I have not received any."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I shall read for the convenience of hon. Members the names of members of the Select Committee—

- (1) The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan.
- (2) Mr. W. E. Smith.
- (3) Diwan Bahadur K. Ramunni Menon.
- (4) Mr. S. Satyamurti.
- (5) „ P. C. Venkatapati Raju.
- (6) „ T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar.
- (7) Rao Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu.
- (8) Diwan Bahadur A. M. M. Murugappa Chettiyar.
- (9) Mr. P. T. Rajan.
- (10) „ T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai.
- (11) „ S. Arpudaswami Udayar.
- (12) „ Mahmud Schamnad Sahib.
- (13) „ W. O. Wright.
- (14) Rao Bahadur C. V. Anantakrishna Ayyar (Advocate-General).
- (15) Mr. Basheer Ahmad Sayeed Sahib.
- (16) „ V. I. Muniswami Pillai.
- (17) Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar.
- (18) Rao Bahadur K. Sitarama Reddiyar.

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(19) Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar.

(20) „ W. P. A. Soundarapandia Nadar.

(21) Rajakumar S. N. Dorai Raja.

(22) Mr. A. V. Bhanoji Rao.

(23) Swami A. S. Sahajanandam.”

* Mr. MAHMUD SCHAMNAD :—“ Sir, I rise to oppose this motion on this ground that this Bill which involves an expenditure of Rs. 60 lakhs on the part of the Government is for higher education. University education is considered to be a luxury. Now there are many villages where there is not even a single elementary school. It is well known that there are already a number of graduates unemployed all over the Presidency, and increasing the number of universities will only mean adding to the discontent and increasing the ranks of unemployed. Therefore, I propose that this large amount of nearly Rs. 60 lakhs may be diverted and well utilized for starting elementary schools in places most needed and in village reconstruction which will go a long way to allay the present discontent. So I strongly oppose this motion.”

Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—“ Sir, while I appreciate the genuine desire of the hon. Member for Malabar for the expansion of mass education and that adequate provision should be made for the expansion of elementary education and rural reconstruction, and realize that the progress we are making in the matter has not been as good as one would wish, at the same time I cannot close my eyes to the demand of the country for higher education. While I agree with the hon. Member that every step should be taken in order to safeguard the rapid progress of free and compulsory education, I cannot ignore the fact that there is a large demand for higher education in the country. It is on considerations of this demand that I have come forward to say that the large investment that the Government propose to make would be a profitable one and in the interests of the people, and that the Bill is also necessary to establish a unitary university in the Tamil Nadu. It will mark an important period in the development of education in Southern India. In 1923, when the University Reorganization Bill was introduced marking out a ten-mile limit for the foundation of a teaching and residential university, critics were not wanting who said that it was altogether a will-o'-the-wisp. Time has shown that these pandits have not been very careful or considerate in their observation or experience. The steps that have been taken to separate gradually the affiliating functions of the Madras University and the concentration of work on higher studies and research in and through the constituent colleges, and also by direct teaching, are all in the right direction. Since the Act of 1923, hon. Members would have observed that a great impetus was given to the study of higher education in the colleges within ten-mile limit of the university. A scheme was prepared in 1923 to meet the existing need for higher education in Southern India. It was considered desirable to foster and develop academic life in the colleges of the university by promoting co-operation between the university and the colleges, so as to utilize to the full the teaching resources available within the limits of the university. It was also contemplated by direct teaching and by concentration and co-ordination of the resources for higher teaching and research at suitable centres outside, preparation would be made for establishing new universities.”

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—“ On a point of order. I remember the hon. the President has ruled that no one should read from a written speech.”

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Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"I am reading from my notes."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"In some cases it is very difficult to say whether a member is reading from a written speech or from his notes."

(Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar: Why cannot the President call for the paper and find out whether it is a speech or notes?)

Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"The Andhra desa wanted a university in order to impress her culture, to preserve her own traditions and to develop her own genius in special directions and therefore separated itself from the mother university. (Mr. Satyanurti: That is too obvious, Sir.) It was even suggested that the ideal type of university should be of the unitary type, a university best suited to foster scholarship and at the same time develop character. What was required for students entering a new university was not the multiplication of examination courses, but real university life which can be developed only by intimate contact and association of students among themselves and with the teachers. The special feature of the Annamalai University is said to be the study of Tamil and Sanskrit, Indian History and other subjects particularly connected with India and provision is made for a separate faculty of oriental studies."

"Specialization in particular branches of learning is a great need among us to-day. It is a great feature of modern universities to encourage scholarship and higher research in particular departments of studies, instead of dissipating the energies of the universities in all literary and scientific branches which can be more usefully developed in other institutions. Specialization in particular periods of Indian history with the aid of Tamil and Sanskrit literature is a primary necessity and is of immense practical value for building up a true Indian history, a history of the people that live in India. Historical research is an important subject which unfortunately we left to Western scholars to work out from the records of foreign travellers. The scheme of the university is well laid out so as to recognize the need of the new university to bring advanced courses of research work within easy reach of students of Southern India, and to create a corporate university life which would make the students intellectually, morally and physically worthy members of the Annamalai University. The founder has set an example unique in India. Madras is really proud of this new University which has not its equal anywhere in India."

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p.m.

"I do not now propose to go into the details of the framework of the Bill, nor analyse the provisions of it. This can be done very thoroughly by the Select Committee. I welcome this university as a great and noble contribution for the development of culture and learning in the Tamil Nadu."

MR. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"May I with your leave suggest the addition of four names to the Select Committee?"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"It is not the practice to allow amendments intended to add names to the list of Select Committee Members. But on this occasion I was told that the Leader of the Opposition and the Chief Minister agreed day before yesterday evening to give the names to the Secretary. By a mistake the names which the Leader of the Opposition wants to include were not included in the list and that is the reason why I am allowing him to move the amendment."

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Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"Sir, I move that the names of the following members be added to the Select Committee:—

Mr. R. Srinivasa Ayyangar,

„ A. B. Shetty,

„ Muhammad Meera Rowther,

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR:—"I second it."

The motion was put and carried.

*The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The amended list is now before the House."

* Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR:—"Sir, as a Brahman I deem it my duty and, may I add, my privilege to bless this Bill. Nothing has given me greater satisfaction and filled me with greater pride than the Bill which, if passed into law, will commence its operation very soon by setting up an institution of a unique character in the province. The very idea that the university is to be located in my native district of South Arcot and in particular in Chidambaram for which I have a partiality by my reason of having passed the old middle school examination there forty years ago, prompts me to take the liberty of supporting this motion. Sir Annamalai may be regarded, without fear of contradiction, as the Pachiappa of the twentieth century. If Pachiappa has done a great deal for secular education, the father of Sir Annamalai, and Sir Annamalai himself, have done much for higher education and thereby placed the country under a deep debt of gratitude to them.

"I am told that Sir Annamalai's father and grandfather came to Chidambaram nearly seventy years ago. I know that that family have spent a lot of money in renovating the temple there, establishing choultries and patasalas, providing water-supply, establishing a high school and latterly founding a college known as the Sri Minakshi College which is now being sought to be developed into a university known as Sir Annamalai University. It is really gratifying to note that the members of the Nagarathar community have of late thought it necessary to divert their munificence into more useful and practical channels of activity. Sir, from what I have said, the reason as to why Chidambaram was chosen is not far to seek. Sri Nataraja has been always regarded by the Annamalai's family as their family deity. It is here that the Saint Manikkavachakar achieved the greatest triumph of his life by defeating a Buddhist saint who had come there to overthrow the worship of Siva, and it is here that he attained his final beatitude.

"Into the merits of the Bill, it is unnecessary to go at this stage. The university that is sought to be founded is of a peculiar type hitherto unknown in this Presidency. It is to be a teaching and residential university having a limited jurisdiction of ten miles. It has no power to affiliate or recognize institutions outside this radius of ten miles. The Bill seeks to give a certain amount of perpetuation to Sir Annamalai's family which, by reason of the generous and munificent donations now made, he and his heirs are legitimately entitled to.

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"Sir, it is gratifying to note that provision has been made in the Bill for a separate faculty of oriental studies. I have no doubt that the university which this Bill will usher into being in the immediate future will function properly and serve the object in view. I have not the slightest doubt that Sir Annamalai will go down to posterity as a real benefactor. For, if I am not very much mistaken, hitherto no philanthropist, no banker and no merchant prince of this Presidency has made such a magnificent and such a large princely donation. The site chosen and its surroundings are admirable and arrest one's eyes. They are all in favour of founding a university in a village which is about three furlongs from the railway station and which will hereafter take the name of Sir Annamalainagar. With these words I support the motion."

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—"Mr. President, Sir, the introduction of this Bill is a glaring example of the way in which education is imparted by the Government, not only in this Presidency, but all over India. It has been pointed out by many a patriot interested in the welfare of this country that the object of the Government should be not so much the production of pandits and maulvis in whom the country abounds, as the production of people who would help in the removal of the poverty of the country and meet the grave problem of unemployment. But what is being done in other provinces and in this Presidency is to start universities which only go to add to the number of graduates already there without employment. What is it that we gain by making a large number of young men read Shakespeare, read Indian history and read also old old literature? The need of the country to-day is the establishment of universities like those of Birmingham and Manchester. Has anything been done to meet the needs of the country in this direction? I feel that the generosity of Sir Annamalai Chettiyar would have merited the gratitude of the country more, if it had been directed towards meeting the great problem of unemployment in the country. He has thought fit once again to bring into existence a university which will produce no doubt pandits and maulvis well versed in literature. But that is not the kind of university that the country wants at the present juncture.

"Sir, if he had started a university of his own without handing it over to the Government, I can understand it. If he had done so, independent Indians who are not connected with the policy of the Government would have interested themselves in developing the university on the lines needed at the present time. The lines that have been chalked out for the university will, if they are persisted in, not be of advantage to the people of this province. It is seen from the Bill that the proposed university is purely to be an official one. The very fact of the Finance Committee being fully represented by members of the Government without any non-official majority proves that it is intended to officialize the university fully. The Government are going to contribute some amount annually for the upkeep of the university. But that is no reason for officializing it. I am sure Sir Annamalai him-self would have liked to have this university independently of Government control, and that would have been of advantage to the country. He could then change the policy from time to time as circumstances require. As things stand now, this university will follow the same lines as the Madras University.

"I wish also to tell the Government that, before they make the universities already under their control more efficient and more useful, I am not

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sure if they are well advised in spending their money over a new university. There is the Madras University. I do not think, under the new Act, it has proved of much use to the country. I do not think the objects aimed at in the Act have been attained. Nothing has been done to make the university more useful. Then there is the Andhra University to which sufficient funds have not been allotted to make it useful to the Andhra country. In this state of affairs, the Madras Government steps in and launches into existence another university for the Tamil country. I am not sure whether any of these universities will be useful if they are going to be worked in this haphazard manner.

"Sir, I do not wish to go into the details of the Bill. I am sure the Select Committee that is going to be formed will certainly alter the very face of the Bill; because, I find that there are many clauses in the Bill which are really objectionable. The Syndicate, I find, is going to be composed entirely of members either nominated by the Governor who is the Chancellor and nominates four members, or nominated by the Founder who nominates three members. I think there are only one or two who are to represent the Senate. The Syndicate officialized in this manner will certainly not be a nationalist Syndicate which will advance the educational side of our province."

* The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"Mr. President, I was sorry to find Mr. Schamnad opposing this Bill and I believe he was joined by Mr. Abdul Hamid Khan. Far be it from me to suggest that mass education is not the first care of the Madras Government.

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"I have said on many an occasion, and I still maintain the view that the first charge on the provincial revenue after the payment of the staff necessary for carrying on the administration of the province should be devoted to mass education. If the Government are really to spend this sum for mass education in a proper manner, we must find teachers who will have an ideal before them. I feel that the university which we are going to found to-day will supply that ideal, and in that sense only I stand here to-day to move that this Bill be referred to a Select Committee. As I have said, there are certain principles which I will stand by but there are others in respect of which if the Select Committee are able to convince me that they are of a nature which will not go towards the achievement of the ideal which I have in mind, I will be the first person to accept amendments.

"Mr. President, Sir, I think it is better that hon. Members of this House know the history by which this Bill has come before the House to-day.

"It was in January last that Sir Annamalai came to me and offered that he would be willing to raise his college at Chidambaram to the status of a university and also provide a sufficient financial backing to make it possible, if Government would view his offer in a sympathetic manner. Sir Annamalai has been good enough to see me several times with regard to the scheme that he propounded at that time. Soon after the Legislative Council session was over last March, Sir Annamalai again met me and said that he was willing to give a sum of twenty lakhs besides handing over the institutions managed by him at Chidambaram to the new university. As a result of that offer and with the help of the Principal of the Sri Minakshi College, Chidambaram, Mr. Nilakanta Sastri, and in consultation with Sir Annamalai, we prepared a scheme which gave in a skeleton form the amount of money that would be

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necessary for the starting of the new university. At this stage, my hon. Colleague the Finance Member was kind enough to meet me and Sir Annamalai in conference which really resulted in finding out how the Government could help forward this scheme. The financial help which the Government would be able to render and which now finds a place in the new Bill as a result of this conference, I am gratified to say, was accepted afterwards by the Government. In this connexion, I must not forget to render our thanks to the Tamil University Committee who, besides recommending a federal scheme for a university in the Tamil country, have also strongly supported the idea of starting a unitary university at Chidambaram. I am sure hon. Members of this House who are also members of that committee will admit that a step in the right direction for the creation of a university to satisfy the aspirations of the Tamil country has been taken in the introduction of this measure. I well remember the words of the hon. Member for the University during the budget debate on grants to the university when he said that the whole House would welcome a measure which would set up a unitary and residential university in the Tamil country, and that in effect is the object of this Bill. I don't want to reiterate the words which find a place in the Statement of Objects and Reasons of this Bill which clearly explain that educational opinion in India after the publication of the Sadler Report is strongly in favour of a unitary and residential type of university. This type of university is not unknown in this country though it may be new to this province as most of the new universities that have come into existence in the north of India have been of this type.

“As I have said more than once, the object of university education is not merely the passing of examinations, but the development of character. I hope the new university will be a place where special facilities will be given for the mingling together of students, which would lead to getting rid of prejudices and which would really go to create a band of young men whose business it will be to carry through the land the torch of learning and unity and a spirit of social service, which would be a pride to the institution from which they come. The university, as will be seen, is open to all people without distinction of caste or creed and I hope sincerely that the new university will make it a point to see that caste scruples which die so hard in this country would not in any way be encouraged in the precincts of this university. This is the ideal which has animated Sir Annamalai to come forward with this magnificent gift and which has made me keen on the scheme. I am sure hon. Members will admit that learning knows no distinction of caste, and it is the duty of the graduates that will go forth from this university to try and preach this ideal of unity throughout the land. Special emphasis will, of course, as is said in the Bill, be laid on Tamil and Oriental learning; I am sure, hon. Members will admit, this is just as it should be, and I am sure they will not misunderstand me if I say that Tamil literature and Tamil culture—though we all talk of the greatness of it—has neither been developed nor its ideals understood although it must be said to the credit of the Tamil Sangam at Madura that they have in a way tried to foster the spirit of Tamil learning. But the great beauty of Tamil literature at least to me is the fact that nowhere in the great books of the Tamils do we see any distinction between man and man which has become, if I may respectfully say so, the bane of our society to-day. It is my sincere hope that the study of this literature will eventually lead the students who enter the portals of

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this University to realize what is the basic principle of this great culture. I am sure if, out of little beginnings of the Sri Minakshi College, is to arise a new type of institution which will produce the type of students which we all so fervently desire, this attempt of Sir Annamalai will not be in vain and I know for a fact that nothing will gratify him more.

"The Bill has been prepared in a great hurry, and there may be faults in drafting, though I must render my grateful thanks to the Law (Drafting) Under Secretary, Mr. C. V. Krishnaswami Ayyar, for the expeditious way in which he has been able to go through the Bill that was handed to him and bring it to the shape in which we have it before us to-day. But defects of any kind, I am sure hon. Members will admit, can be remedied in the Select Committee.

"Finally, I would like to say one word about Sir Annamalai himself. I am sure hon. Members will realize that this is the biggest benefaction that has been offered to the cause of education in this province, and I do hope that this is only the beginning of such benefactions. It really shows the way to men who are happily circumstanced in this world and will be a guide to them to show that the amassing of wealth is not the end in life but a greater purpose is achieved if that wealth could be utilized for the advantage of our fellow human beings, and in this respect I am sure hon. Members will render their grateful thanks to Sir Annamalai for his munificent gift. I hope, Mr. President, hon. Members do not feel that I have kept them long over this, but my only excuse is the advantage of this type of university to higher education. With these words, Mr. President, I hope the House will allow this Bill to go before a Select Committee."

MR. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—"Sir, it is usual for the Opposition to criticize the action of the Government generally. It is also not unusual to appreciate the Government whenever a chance arises. Thanks are due to Sir Annamalai for having given an opportunity to the hon. the Chief Minister of piloting a Bill which is likely to be of very great importance. If to-day we are in a position to appreciate the Government, that appreciation is entirely due to Sir Annamalai's munificence. It is possible to entertain a slight difference of opinion with regard to the particular manner in which education will have to be provided hereafter having regard to the rather very large number of universities that are spreading generally. But the Government, constituted as it is, should not spend upon university education unless some attractive proposals are placed before them though it seems to me that we should not use that argument in opposing this measure. If the Government in consultation with the opposition should think it not worth while to spend the tax-payers' money upon objects of this nature, there is no guarantee that they will spend that money upon mass education. It is just possible that the money might be appropriated for enhancing the pay of the services or for objects of that nature. From that point of view, it seems to me that any money that can be got from this Government for the purpose of education—university, secondary or primary—should be obtained instead of allowing it not to be spent in any of these systems of education. Sir Annamalai by offering his proposals to the Government has been able to induce the Government to accept them, so far as the Chidambaram University is concerned. A very strong argument must be placed before the Government that they should not neglect the important Andhra University. The Andhra University without the help of any such public philanthropy is

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still in a very nebulous stage and the Government are showing a very lukewarm sympathy. I think the offer of Sir Annamalai Chettiyar must make the Government blush that they were not able to do anything for the last three or four years to the Andhra University. I have no doubt that the representatives of the Andhra districts will not allow a minute's rest to the hon. the Chief Minister if he continues to neglect it any longer as the foundation stone for the Chidambaram University is being laid. With these remarks, I have very great pleasure to support the proposition moved by my hon. Friend the Chief Minister."

* Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, I may say that while I sympathize with some of the objections raised by some Members of the Opposition in this House, I feel that it would not be right to raise objections at this stage. No doubt this Bill will go before a Select Committee. My perusal of the Bill shows that the Bill is not perfect. But we shall have opportunities to amend the Bill, as it is at present, both at the Select Committee stage and in the Council when the Bill comes before it again. I should like to join other Members of this House who referred to the munificence of Sir Annamalai Chettiyar. We should gratefully accept it. The example of Sir Annamalai will be an inducement for other benefactors to come forward to further the cause of education in this Presidency. For the reason I have urged I feel that it is necessary to support this Bill; at the same time I feel that there is room for improving it. I shall feel glad if hon. Members agree that this Bill should go before a Select Committee trusting that the Select Committee will amend the Bill as far as possible and believing again that a further improvement will be made when the Bill comes before this House later on."

Mr. W. E. SMITH :—" Mr. President, Sir, I should like to say a word to remove an apprehension, viz., that this proposed university will produce a large number of graduates in this province. It is intended to provide for only a thousand students. That seems to be the principle of the Bill. The institutions in Chidambaram have been in existence for the last eight years. It is not likely, therefore, that the university that is going to be started will produce such a large number of graduates in a few years; and that will be a very small proportion to the total number of graduates in the whole province. I accordingly support the Bill of the hon. the Chief Minister who has already explained in the Bill itself the objects of the teaching university to be established at Chidambaram."

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p.m.

Diwan Bahadur K. RAMUNNI MENON :—" Mr. President, I have no desire to take much time of this House; but since we are now considering a matter concerning the development of education in this province—and incidentally as it also affects the relationship now existing between the Madras University and the State colleges—and occupying, as I do, a position of responsibility in the Madras University, I feel I might be considered lacking in a sense of fitness if I propose to record a silent vote on this motion.

" Sir, the two outstanding features of this Bill are the rare instance of private generosity that is brought out, and the proposal to found a teaching and residential university in Chidambaram—I emphasize the word 'residential.' I know, Sir, each of these two features by itself would entitle the measure to favourable consideration, and when they combine so harmoniously

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as in this Bill, I believe that nothing but the most overwhelming considerations of educational policy or academic freedom or practical impossibility should stand in the way of our according it a ready and cordial welcome. Sir, I have read through the provisions of this Bill, but I find nothing in it which is not favourable to the promotion of the highest academic interests. I know there exists in certain quarters an idea that the creation of a new university can only result in the multiplication of graduates. My hon. Colleague has dealt with that problem sufficiently, and I would like to amplify his treatment of it further by saying this that the assumption that an increased production of graduates is by itself an evil is open to criticism. Apart from that, there seems to be a presumption that the University of Madras has reached a point of saturation and that it can stop producing more and more graduates. That is far from being the case; and I have not the least doubt that if we do not establish any more universities in South India for the next ten years, we shall still continue to get the annual increase in the production of graduates. So that, the creation of a new university has nothing to do with the annual production of graduates.

"Apart from this point, the real point that we are now considering is not that of providing more facilities for the increased production of graduates, but for providing a better type of university and for a better kind of university training. Looked at from that point of view, I have not the least doubt that the Bill before us is an extremely promising measure. There is nothing in this Bill which to my mind is inimical to academic freedom. There are certain provisions, I know, on which difference of opinion exists; but I have not the least doubt that these differences would be solved after discussion in the Select Committee. I may add what to my mind appears to be an important feature of this Bill is the clear manner in which it has been drafted, clearly demarcating the functions of the various departments of the university. Those who, like myself, have had an opportunity to work the University Act and to administer its provisions, will surely associate themselves with this particular aspect of the Bill. The Chidambaram college is one of the youngest institutions of the Madras University. We people who have been connected with the Madras University for such a long time and have worked for it have always wished to secure for the metropolis the advantages of a residential university. I cannot say however that we have succeeded; in fact some of us have now begun to feel that our successors may be blessed with long life, so that they might see the fulfilment of our hopes and desires. But our disappointments and our cares and anxieties have not weakened the efforts of our friends to start a residential university. I may say with some measure of confidence that those who are associated with the Madras University will welcome with the utmost joy the establishment of a university at Chidambaram on the lines which this Bill has laid down. I have therefore the greatest pleasure in supporting the motion before the House."

* Mr. S. SATYAMURTHI:—"Mr. President, Sir, for five years I have been a member of this House, and I have never had an earlier opportunity—and I do not know if I will get a later opportunity—when I whole-heartedly agreed with a measure brought forward by the hon. the Minister for Education. As one having the honour to represent the registered graduates of the Madras University, it gives me great pleasure to say to the new Annamalai

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University which I hope will come into existence before the end of this calendar year—

Go forth, my daughter,
Do well; put to shame thy mother
And improve on her conquests
In the field of knowledge and research.

In saying that, Mr. President, I cannot help paying a very sincere and whole-hearted tribute of admiration and gratitude and respect to the illustrious founder of this new university. Bengal, as my hon. Friend from Ganjam, the ex-Minister for Education, pointed out, can boast of two such universities. Till now Madras has had none. I think Sir Annamalai has proved a pioneer in the field of higher education, and I think posterity will bless his name and the names of those who assist in bringing into existence this great university. I entirely agree, Mr. President, with our distinguished Vice-Chancellor of the Madras University when he said that the criticism that by producing graduates you produce an evil, is a cheap, cynical criticism which has neither truth nor justice behind it. Sir, my own honest feeling is that, although it may be said that I say it because I belong to the class of graduates myself, as my hon. Friend remarked, we want more and more of educated men in this country. You must not confuse the effects of temporary unemployment due to causes wholly outside the control of the educational authorities and say that you do not want more of education but that you want less of it. Sir, in no country in the world, is a degree in the university a necessary or direct passport to public or private employment; and I hope in this country it will not be so here also before very long. I hope that a Public Services Commission will be soon appointed which will conduct its own examinations irrespective of the academic distinctions obtained by the candidates for public service. But, Sir, apart from all that, I entirely agree with my hon. Friend the Minister for Education that mass education should be the first charge on the revenues of the State. What then do you think? We cannot really have mass education on a large and adequate scale unless we have the educational atmosphere of the whole province and of the country kept up at an increasingly high level which can only be done by the creation and multiplication of the right kind of universities. Sir, the hon. the ex-Minister for Education will pardon me when I say that his attempt was also to create a teaching and residential university at Madras. I do not question his intentions; but those intentions—the hon. the Vice-Chancellor and the other expert Member will agree with me—still remain very largely in the realm of intentions. We have not yet been able to establish anything like a teaching or residential university in Madras.

“Now, Sir, I am not an admirer of things Western or English because they are Western or English; but I do feel strongly, Mr. President, that the creation of a real teaching and residential university is a necessity which will reproduce *mutatis mutandis*, according to modern conditions, the ancient gurukulas almost throughout the country and also the atmosphere of Oxford and Cambridge is a necessity. They will be the nurseries of those leaders of men whom we want more and more in our country. Perhaps you have too many graduates; I agree. But you have not yet produced a sufficiently large number of leaders of men who can take decisions at favourable junctures, who lead men and who lead causes whether they are in a minority or in a majority. Contemporary political history will remind us of the great need

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for such leaders of men who will be true to their principles through good fortune and evil and who will not change sides. That can only be done by true education of the right type being given to men when they are young. Sir, having said that, and having welcomed this Bill, I must say that there are provisions in this Bill to which exception can and ought to be rightly taken; but I agree, Sir, they are all more or less Select Committee points, and I hope that in the Select Committee and afterwards in this Council those points will be dealt with adequately and will be solved to the satisfaction of all the parties concerned.

"Now, Sir, a great deal has been said that we must provide for other educational needs of the province and that therefore we ought not to allow this large expenditure of money from the State revenues on the proposed Annamalai University. If any hon. Friend will give any guarantee that he will melt the stony heart of the hon. the Finance Member of the Government of Madras and guarantee that the money now proposed to be spent on the Chidambaram University will be spent either on the Andhra University or on mass education in the next year's budget, I will certainly reconsider my position; but I do not see any such prospect. Luckily, Sir Annamalai and his friends have procured this grant; as a businessman I take that grant and I will join my friends in insisting on further grants for the Andhra University and for mass education on the ground that the Government, who have found money for this University, ought to be able to find money for equally good objects. But, so long as that guarantee is not forthcoming, I think it will be foolish on our part to throw away this offer of a substantial aid from the Government for the benefit of training one thousand young men under ideal university conditions.

"Sir, the hon. the Vice-Chancellor said that there is no provision in this Bill which is inconsistent with the academic freedom of the university. I wish I could agree with him. But I think the provision about the Finance Committee is anomalous; and this Council will not like to agree to make the Finance Committee, which is dominated by the Government and the nominated element, to interfere with the financial administration of the proposed university. I do not know what the Vice-Chancellor will say if in the Madras University there is a Finance Committee which will be mandatory, consisting of the Secretary to the Government of Madras in charge of Education, the Secretary to the Government of Madras in charge of Finance, the Founder, the Vice-Chancellor and a member of the Syndicate—if they are to sit over the budget and if there is to be a row between them and the Senate, which even he cannot control. It seems to me that this is a provision which has got to be radically amended in the Select Committee and in the Council. That is the only provision in this Bill to which objection can be reasonably taken. There are also some provisions about the position of the various university authorities which will have to be looked into; but they are all points of detail. I would only add one more thing: a great deal has been said about the necessity for technological institutes. That is a queer notion on the part of those who complain that we produce too many graduates and thereby add to the unemployment in the education market but that if we produce more technological graduates, we will find somehow employment for them. I cannot see the logic of it. What I want is that in this country there should be more and more industries and occupations. As it is, I think there is already

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unemployment among the graduates of the Agricultural College, Coimbatore, and the Engineering College, Guindy, highly specialized and well trained as they are.

"Sir, I feel that, even assuming that the objection is sound, there is provision in clause 3 of the Bill to provide for instruction in such branches of learning that the university may think fit, including professional subjects and studies in technology. Therefore, there is ample provision made for such education being given. Again also, Sir, the authors of the Bill have agreed to allow even colleges affiliated to other universities in agriculture and technological subjects to grow within the ten-mile limit of Chidambaram, and, as far as the objects of the Bill are concerned, an endeavour will be made to meet the demand for technological training. 1 p.m.

"I am glad to say that the hon. the Minister referred to the promotion of Tamil and Sanskrit studies. In supporting that idea, I have no particular political object in view, and I hold that good literature, whether Tamil, Sanskrit or English, alike proclaim the equality of man. It is not the monopoly of any particular literature. But as an Indian I feel that Tamil and Sanskrit ought to be encouraged. That is one of the features of this university which I particularly welcome. For these reasons, Mr. President, I have great pleasure in supporting this Bill and its reference to the Select Committee, in the hope that all these points of detail will be settled in the Select Committee and later on in the Council, and that, as a result of our conjoint labours, the university will come into existence which will for all time stand as a monument to the munificence of this great benefactor of education in South India, and which will produce leaders of men who will play a rightful part in the affairs of this country."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I take it the House is ready for a vote. The question is that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the following members:—

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan.
 Mr. W. E. Smith.
 Diwan Bahadur K. Ramunni Menon.
 Mr. S. Satyamurti.
 „ P. C. Venkatapathi Raju.
 „ T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar.
 Rao Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu.
 Diwan Bahadur A. M. M. Murugappa Chettiyar.
 Mr. P. T. Rajan.
 „ T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai.
 „ S. Arpudaswami Udayar.
 „ Mahmud Schamnad Sahib.
 „ W. O. Wright.
 Rao Bahadur O. V. Anantakrishna Ayyar.
 Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib.
 „ V. I. Muniswami Pillai.
 Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar.
 Rao Bahadur K. Sitarama Reddiyar.
 Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar.
 „ W. P. A. Soundara Pandiya Nadar.

[The hon. the President] [8th September 1928]

Mr. S. N. Dorai Raja.

„ A. V. Bhanoji Rao.

Swami A. S. Sahajanandam.

Mr. R. Srinivasa Ayyangar.

„ Muhammad Meera Ravuttar.

„ A. B. Shetty.

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar.”

The question was put, and the motion was carried.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ I appoint Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar as the Chairman of the Committee.”

IV

DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS FOR 1928-29.

GRANT XXIV—CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES—TRANSFERRED.

* The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—“ On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

‘ that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 1,520 for the appointment of two additional inspectors of co-operative societies for non-credit work for West Godavari and Ramnad districts.’

“ We have got in every district an Assistant Registrar and a Special Inspector appointed for non-credit work. It is only in these two districts of West Godavari and Ramnad that we have not got such inspectors, and, in view of the importance of the development of the non-credit side of the co-operative movement in every district, I move for this supplementary grant.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ Messrs. P. Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu and Basheer Ahmad Sayeed have given notice of an amendment to reduce the allotment by Rs. 100, to discuss the attitude of the Government in not appointing an adequate number of Muslim officers in the Co-operative department. It raises a general question on a supplementary demand confined only to two inspectors in West Godavari and Ramnad districts. I should like to hear what the hon. Members have to say on the question of its admissibility.”

Mr. BASHEER AHMAD SAYEED :—“ Sir, if I may be permitted, even yesterday at question time it was pointed out . . . ”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ How the amendment is in order on this supplementary demand is the question.”

Mr. BASHEER AHMAD SAYEED :—“ It is because new appointments are being made.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ Two inspectors only are to be appointed. The hon. Member is raising a general question.”

* Mr. BASHEER AHMAD SAYEED :—“ I may request the hon. the Minister for Development to appoint Muslims for the new appointments that are contemplated.”